

OFFERED 6 SENATORS CHEAP

SENATOR WAS BUCKLEY'S
PRIOR TO NEW YORK LIFE.

Mr. Buckley's offer to President Kingsley, says
Buckley, \$2,000. Buckley wrote the
last passage on the bill.

David P. Kingsley, who succeeded his
father-in-law, John A. McCall, as president
of the New York Life Insurance Company,
resigned yesterday at the insurance in-
quiry conducted by Supt. Hotchkiss that
he was in Albany trying to
get through an amendment to the Ar-
mstrong law. William H. Buckley, the in-
surance lobbyist and former employee of
the insurance Department, had come to
him and proposed to "deliver" the votes
of six Senators for \$3,000, each of the six
Senators to get \$500 for his vote. He
rejected the proposition, using the word
"policy."

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Mr. Buckley had predicted.
Some letters of Buckley were read
yesterday showing his activity in the
Senate of 1908 and from that time on
through the session last year. Through
the testimony of George D. Eldridge,
former vice-president of the Mutual
Reserve, it was brought out that Buckley
was then Deputy Superintendent of In-
surance had helped the Mutual Reserve
get through a bill in 1907 that had been
in the Senate for a long time and had
been passed by the Senate in 1907, which
the company \$5,000, which it refused to
pay. In 1908 Buckley had a bill of George
P. Sheslow, "President" toward the
Governor and it was approved. Senator
Amble, Lord Pym's Senator, introduced
the anti-compact bill at that session
and it was duly introduced in the Senate.
Buckley collected just about this time
\$500 from his friend Sheldon and stating
in his bill that this did not include a fee
for himself.

"It is more than you ought to have to
pay for what you got," he wrote to Shel-
don.

Mr. Hotchkiss intimated that he would
bring this little incident before the Albany
Association.

There was a mysterious Grady bill
in the session of 1903 which did not get
through and regarding which Mr. Hotchkiss
failed to get any information. Al-
though Buckley said that he did not get
any money from Sheldon for anything from
1903 on it appeared that in the subse-
quent years he was pretty active in
Sheldon as to just what was to hap-
pen not only in the Legislature but in
the insurance Department.

Senator Fraxley and Assemblyman
Edward E. Smith of New York introduced
an anti-compact bill in 1908 which Buck-
ley called a "strick" wherefore he asked
for a retainer of \$2,500, but for some
reason did not get it. When the session
of Senators came around in the fall of
that year he suggested to Sheldon that
he had better be quick about attending
contributions for the New York Albany
Association and New York. Mr. Hotchkiss
wrote to know if Buckley meant Sena-
tor Fraxley and Grady, but as usual
Buckley's memory went back on him.

Reference was made in one letter written
in 1909 to "my friend in the Senate,"
who apparently wanted Sheldon to know
that he was his (Sheldon's) fault if any-
thing went wrong with the Senate that
year Sheldon did not like. Buckley ex-
plained these little gratuitous tips to Shel-
don by saying that he was trying to get
the understanding to employ his friend,
John Vanderpool, who had been chief
counsel of the insurance Department.

Mr. Kingsley's testimony came at the
beginning of the hearing yesterday morn-
ing and he was very precise regarding
the incident he related. At that time Mr.
Kingsley was vice-president of the New
York Life Insurance Company, the purpose of
the amendment which he had gone to Albany
to get through was to save the policy-
holders from exposing their list of policy-
holders. He provided that any communi-
cation in regard to an opposition bill
should not be put in any matter it wanted
to have it sent to the policyholders in
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JOHN KIMBERLY MUMFORD.

A collection of rare and beautiful pieces,
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exhibition at our Warerooms each day
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away from you unless something is done.
I was not very wise to the ways of
Albany and I said:

"I don't see how they can take it away
from me. The amendment has been
carried," he said; they will. The wheels
are busy on that proposition right now,
but it need not happen in that way. For
\$3,000 I can deliver you six votes."

"In which house?" asked Mr. Hotchkiss,
interrupting Mr. Kingsley's narrative.
"In the Senate," he said. "The bill was in the
Senate," he said.

"DID YOU COME TO ALBANY TO RUN A
SUNDAY SCHOOL?"

"Mr. Buckley, we can't do anything
of that kind," he said. "Did you come up
here to run a Sunday school? This is
Albany," I said that I had not. He said:
"Have you considered what it will cost your
company to make these lists public, or the
names it will do by having all these names
exposed and your business looked all over
the world?" I said: "I have, very seriously."

"I can stop it for \$3,000," he said.
"I am on the street then or in his
office?"

"We were, as I recall it now, in a hallway
or doorway of an entrance."

"On the same side of the street as the
Ten Eyck?"

NOT A DAMN CENT.

"Yes, I said: 'Mr. Buckley, I am ex-
tremely anxious to keep what I have got
in this contest, and I will sacrifice almost
anything, but I won't sacrifice my self-respect
and you can't have a damn cent.'"

"Did he tell you that six votes he could
purchase for \$3,000?"

"He named some men."

"Do you recollect any of those names?"

"I don't recall. I didn't know at the
time more than three men in the Senate,
and any list of Senators would look like
a city directory to me. My memory is
not distinct as to the names at all."

"Did you know at the time the names of
any members that he named?"

"No, sir."

"Did he say it would require \$3,000 for
the six votes, or did he say it would be
\$500 apiece?"

"As I understood it, it was to be \$500
apiece and was to be paid in money as
the votes were actually delivered."

"That is, he offered you a sort of con-
tracting contract, so to speak. If the
votes were not delivered you were not to
pay the money?"

"Yes."

"And asked you to agree with him that
when your vote was held that you should
pay him the \$500?"

WAS NOT THE SIX EXACTLY YET.

Mr. Kingsley said that that was as he
understood it. When asked then what
Buckley had said as to how they were
going to deprive him of the amendment
he had been named by Mr. Kingsley.
He said that as he recalled it they were
going to hold a caucus and rescind the
vote which as a matter of fact they did.

"Did he say that upon the vote of re-
cancellation he would get six Senators
who had voted against you before to vote
with you the next day, so as to offset the
corresponding vote to be against you the
next day?"

"I don't know whether he said that
specifically."

"I take it that what he did say was that
some who had voted for you that day
would vote against you the next day on
reconsideration?"

"The idea was that the political powers
would practically accomplish that result
by changing the vote in the Senate."
Mr. Kingsley was unable to say whether
Buckley's prediction came true the next
day or whether it was a little later.

"As a matter of fact," he said, "the Re-
publican party held a caucus with some
slight modifications made in the bill
not material, however, and it was passed,
substantially in the original form without
the amendment."

"What Mr. Buckley said would happen
did happen?"

"Did happen, and we suffered a very
heavy loss on account of it."

"And by your not taking advantage of
his offer you lost what you had secured
that day?"

"Yes."

SILLY STORY, SAYS BUCKLEY.

Buckley was called and said that if he
had ever had an interview with Mr.
Kingsley, it was of Mr. Kingsley's own
seeking in the first place.

"If he said that I had offered to take
money to change the vote in the Senate,
that is not so," he added. "It is a silly
story."

Buckley said that it would have been
asinine for him to offer to sell six votes
to Mr. Kingsley, who was a member of
the Senate, and he added that he had
never contributed a dollar toward that Senator's
campaign fund, but when asked if he had
ever given a cent on behalf of the in-
surance interests to any Senatorial candi-
dates for campaign expenses he declined
to answer.

John M. Cunningham, president of the
Glens Falls Insurance Company, was
called to testify concerning an appeal
Sheldon made to him in 1903. Sheldon
had written a letter to Cunningham
December 15 of that year regarding
Brackett's activities in the way of hostile
legislation.

"At the last session," wrote Sheldon,
"the insurance Department seemed to be in
the Senate, and the leader seemed to be
the leader of your district. If you can sug-
gest any reasons that control him we
will confer together so that our business
won't be the subject of legislation during
the coming year."

Senator Brackett was then employed
as counsel by the insurance Department.
Company, which had mills at Glens Falls
and Sheldon asked Cunningham to find
out if it was because of that company's
dissatisfaction with the fact that Brackett
had been making trouble for Mr. Cunning-
ham said that the company was dissatis-
fied and had gone into some New England
mutual companies afterward.

"So that if Sheldon wanted to get Buck-
ley that way he didn't get him?" asked
Mr. Hotchkiss.

"No, sir," replied the witness.

ONCE BUCKLEY DIDN'T COLLECT.

George D. Eldridge testified that a bill
to help along the Mutual Reserve was
introduced in the session of 1901 and passed on May
10. Buckley, who had been employed
by the company to help the thing along,
was the Third Deputy Insurance Superin-
tendent until ten days before the bill's
passage. Mr. Eldridge didn't remember
whether Buckley had presented his bill
for this service or not, but he had re-
signed. The bill was for \$5,000. Mr.
Eldridge opposed payment of it and
Frederick Burnham, president of the
company, offered Buckley \$500 in settle-
ment, which Buckley refused. He didn't
sue and he never got a cent.

YELLOW DOG FUND.

Turning once more to Buckley, Mr.
Hotchkiss suddenly asked him if he had
ever heard of the yellow dog fund.
Buckley said it was newspaper talk.
"That was the fund Hamilton had; don't
you know anything about it?" asked Mr.
Hotchkiss.

Buckley said he didn't.

"Will you swear that the \$10,000 you
got from the Travelers and turned into
cash did not pass into that yellow dog
fund?"

"I don't know anything about it.
Nothing that I got passed through it."

PROPHET IN THE GOVERNOR'S ANTE-
CHAMBER.

Mr. Hotchkiss then read a letter which
Buckley had sent to Sheldon on April 11,
1908, in which he said that he was
"Your bill passed the Assembly to-day
and I have arranged to have it go to the
Governor immediately. He will talk with
the Superintendent and no doubt will
approve."

Mr. Hotchkiss wanted to know if
Buckley at that time was able to "acceler-
ate" a bill toward the Executive Chamber.
Buckley said the letter explained itself.
Higgins was then Governor and on April
15 Buckley wrote down to his friend
Sheldon:

"Your bill will be signed this week.
You will be glad to know that the so-called
anti-compact bill will not go any further
beyond its present position."

As usual, Buckley when asked by Mr.
Hotchkiss if this letter was to the Albany
anti-compact bill, he failed to remember
anything about it. In the same letter he
wrote regarding the bill:

"I have been thinking in the matter
because I felt that a good man like you
should not be forced to a lot of incon-
venience in order that some people could
get even with others."

"Is that what anti-compact bills were
for?" Mr. Hotchkiss inquired.